

A total of 26 prehistoric artifacts were recovered from the test excavations at the Heisler Tenancy Site. The most numerous were jasper flakes (13), 8 of which contained cortex. Five quartz flakes and one chert flake with cortex were also found. One rhyolite and one quartz early stage biface reject, one utilized quartzite flake, one quartz core, 2 fragments of FCR, and 1 quartz hammerstone were recovered. These prehistoric artifacts were thinly distributed over a wide area. All were from disturbed contexts, including plowzone levels at the top of the bluff, and from deep soil levels in the highly eroded slopewash areas. Some of these prehistoric artifacts were recovered from within the bounds of Feature 1, suggesting the extent of surface disturbance at the site. No diagnostic artifacts were recovered, and no prehistoric features were encountered.

PHASE I TESTING OF NON-SITE AREAS

With the adaptation of new design plans by DelDOT for this segment of the proposed ROW, which shifted the ROW approximately 300' west of its first location, additional testing of the Patterson Lane tract was necessary. This Phase I testing was conducted by UDCAR archaeologists from December 1985 to April 1986, and consisted of the excavation of 78 3'x3' test units in an extension to the west and south of the grid pattern established by DelDOT archaeologists four years earlier. Two additional historic sites were identified at this time during the Phase I survey - the Heisler Site (7NC-E-83) and the Dickson Site (7NC-E-82). Phase II investigations to determine site boundaries

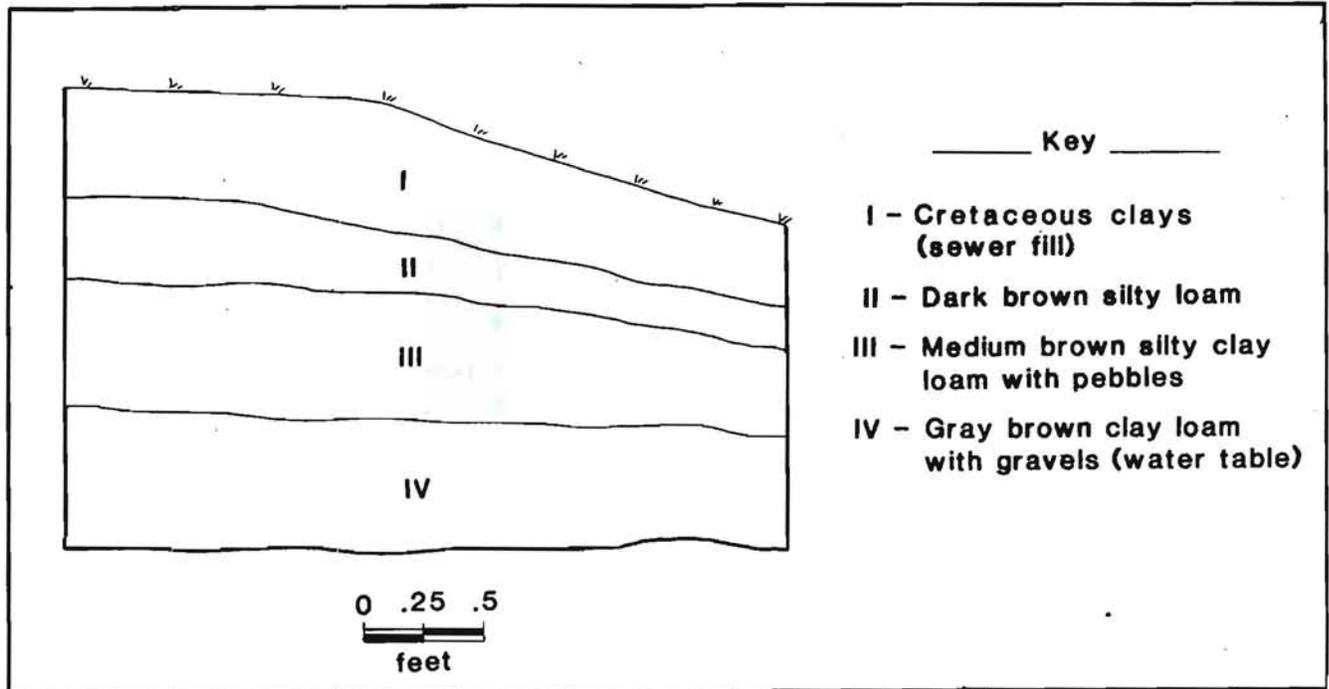
and National Register Eligibility were considered necessary at both of these sites due to the nature of the archaeological remains encountered.

The additional Phase I testing undertaken by UDCAR tested three different environmental settings in the Patterson Lane area, two of which were not previously tested by DelDOT archaeologists. These were the marshlands at the base of the bluff, several terraces on the slope itself, and the top of the bluff. This last area included agricultural land, now fallow and overgrown with brush, and non-agricultural land.

The testing along the fringes of the marsh consisted of the excavation of eight 3'x3' test units. Soil profiles in these units exhibited a dark brown humus of approximately 0.3' in depth, overlaying a 1.0' thick level of medium brown sandy loam with pebbles, which was above a mottled orange and gray-brown clay with pebbles. This last level, which was about 1.5' below ground surface, was also the water table. No prehistoric artifacts were recovered from the marsh testing, and only a few historic artifacts were found, probably the result of both slope erosion and waterborne deposition. Figure 60 is a profile of Test Unit S247 W321, and is representative of the marsh area units. Also to be seen in this profile is the presence of gray mottled cretaceous clays on the surface. These were there as the result of the sewer line that was placed along the bottom of the bluff in the 1960s.

Testing on the terraces present on the south side of the bluff consisted of the excavation of eight 3'x3' test units, placed in areas of potential site probability. Soil stratigraphy

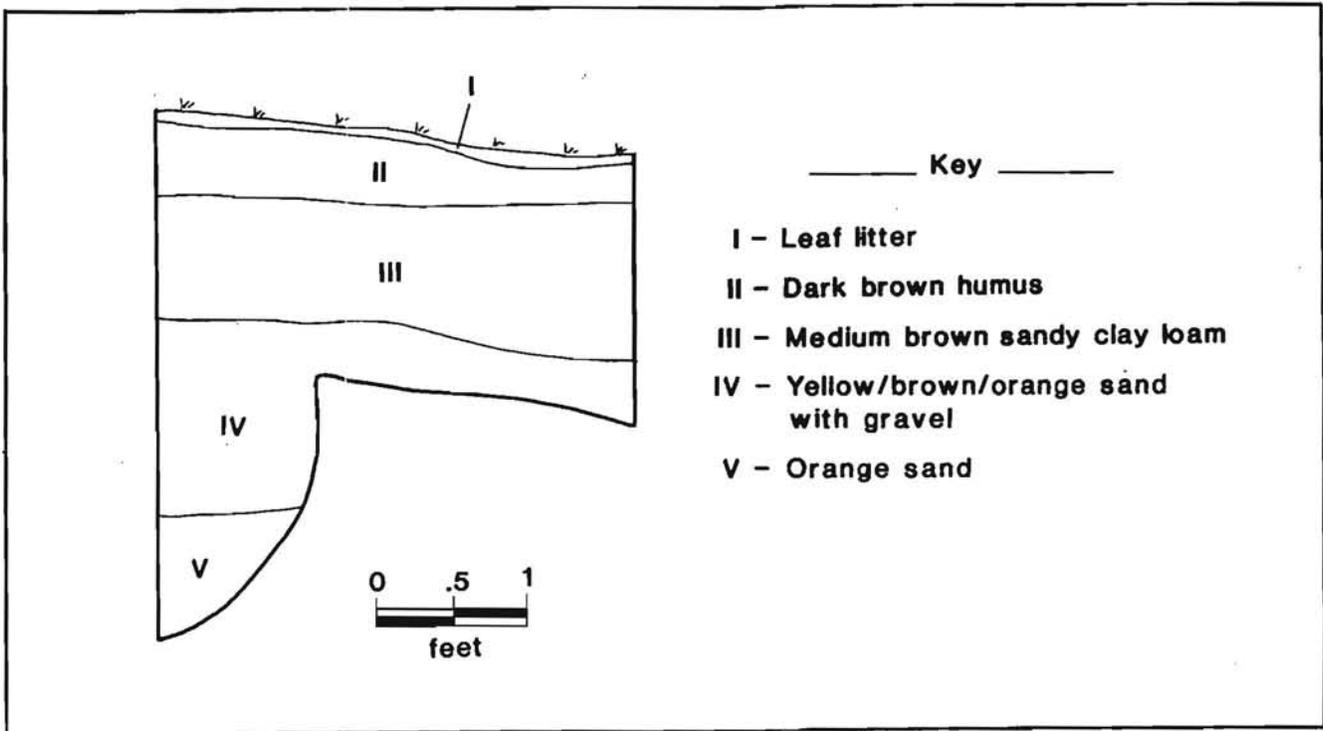
FIGURE 60
Profile of S247 W321 (Marsh Area)



on these slopes exhibited eroded A and B horizons, above less steeply sloping C horizons. The humus was poorly developed, and soils ranged in the B horizons from tannish/brown to gray silts and clays with gravels. Figures 61 and 62 illustrate the types of profiles encountered in the terrace investigations. No prehistoric artifacts were recovered, and the few historic artifacts were doubtless caused by slopewash activities from the Heisler site above.

Excavations on the top of the bluff were made up by the balance of the additional test units placed at Patterson Lane. Testing here identified an old agricultural field, probably associated with the Patterson Lane Site occupation. Soil profiles in these units, which were located to the west of the

FIGURE 61
Profile of S93 W514.5 (Terrace)



original DelDOT test units, exhibited similar profiles to those found by DelDOT and shown in Figure 63.

INTERSITE ANALYSES AND INTERPRETATIONS

The archaeological remains identified in the Patterson Lane Site Complex represent a wide and diverse range of temporal and functional site types. Intersite comparisons can best be made with the Dickson (I and II) occupations, and with the Heisler Tenancy Site, since these two were subjected to more intensive levels of artifact analysis. Several levels of intersite analysis were applied to these sites, including a comparison of architectural site dimensions for nine local sites, vessel function comparisons between sites, and economic scaling using